pp 11 - 12: "Our Call-sign is 4K1A in the Antarctic," by O. Neruchev, 4K1A/UA3HK.

The author was a member of the 27th Soviet Antarctic Expedition (SAE). On arrival in Antarctica he found the head of communications for the 26th SAE was Roman Mironovich USVATOV, who, despite his other duties had helped the single amateur operator, Viktor Kabakov, UA3XBP, from Obninsk, in every possible way. When the author met Viktor it turned out they had both attended Moscow Energy Institute (small world) and had been active at its collective station, UK3AAC (ex-UA3KBA). They worked Nikolay Urkhumtsev, UV3CE, who was so loud you'd think he was next door. Next day they worked UPOL-22, pole to pole. They couldn't raise UK3R so passed traffic for UK3R via Yuriy Zolotov, UA3HR. Yuriy suggested going to teletype, and after setting up the necessary equipment this was done successfully.

Soon some pleasant news came: Two other hams would winter over during the 27th SAE -- Vitaliy Limanskiy, UW3EU, and Nikolay Lukashov, ex-UQ2-037-7/mm, UA1-144-7, and, since March 1982, UAØQDB. With their arrival it became possible to organize a real collective station, the more so since what was left by Viktor Kabakov permitted them to set up a 5-element rotating ten-meter antenna. If course they would not content themselves with only one band and would have to set up antennas for others -- and, most important, equip operating positions.

A great deal of help was given by Aleksandr Alekseyevich Lebedev, chief of the radio detachment of the 27th SAE and by Yuriy Ivanovich AFANAS'YEV, chief of the receiving conter, both of whom had wintered over before. It was decided to house the station in one of the rooms of the receiving center. At the disposal of the operators were one R-250 M2 receiver, a transceiver, and a dipole antenna.

3 January 1982, 0600 MSK /0300 GMT/. The airwaves are full of telegraph signals; the All-Union Competitions for the CRC USSR Cup Named After E. T. Krenkel' are on. Only UAØZCR and UAØKBE are contacted, that's all. It was decided to concentrate on antennas and only then to enter all-union cup competitions. A ground plane was constructed for 15- and 40-meters and a 5-element beam for 10m. But for the competitions only the 15m GP was ready. Soviet signals came crashing in, but still no success. Kolya Lukashov remarked "If even Konstantin Khachaturov and Georgiy Rumyantsev don't answer, it's time to switch off!" He was right. The best propagation from the European part of the USSR was from 1600 to 2100 MSK for two or three hours. But all all-union competitions by that time are winding down. But still it was necessary to improve the antennas.

They were operating an hour or two a day and had had about 2,000 QSO's with 100 countries, working Scandinavian and socialist countries. Too bad there are so few Soviet amateurs on the air at the best hours of propagation to Europe; it's so pleasant to hear a familiar voice over a distance of almost 15,000 km. It is so satisfactory to work UQ2GA, UK2GAB, UK3AAC, UW3FW, UA3DEA, UA3AEL, UK5MAF. In January they were finally successful in working UK3R. Plans for a 7 MHz antenna had to be abandoned on account of high winds. A vibrator right on the ground would have to be used. Meanwhile, installation of the 5-element beam continued.

February. One more surprise, a strong fading of radiowaves. Somehow UK3R got through. Nikokay Lukashev with great effort brings his country total to 115. The forced idleness, however, helps the antennas efforts.

To finish off this short description, a funny incident that occurred with a Soviet amateur (whose call-sign will not be given), who gave a long CQ DX call, then responded to 4K1A's reply in Russian:

"What's the matter, didn't you hear me calling DX?"
"That's just why I'm answering you!"
"DX, and in Russian?!"

Yes, unfortunately, there are still among our shortwavers those who consider that DX is an exotic call-sign and someone else's language. But isn't an amateur, for example on Kamchatka, DX for a European station?

We at 4K1A are trying to operate actively on all amateur bands so as to provide the possibility of getting the 172nd oblast' to all of our DX contacts! Ahead are months of operation. Information may be obtained from Anatoliy Laymitaynen, UA3AEL.

pp 12 - 13: "CQ - U."

VHF*UHF*SHF, by G. Lyapin, UA3AOW. 144/430/1215 MHz - TROPO.

The first reports on use of tropospheric-scatter propagation by ultrashortwavers in Siberia was received from UA9UKO and UA9UNK from Osinniki, who 1 Feb worked Leninsk-Kuznetskiy, thus receiving a new QTH locator square. There are now 16 ultrashortwave stations in Kemerovskaya Oblast'. [UA9UJT]

In the European part of the country February turned out to be rich in good "tropo" in the Baltic and Leningrad area. According to RA1ALN's observations, the appearance of tropospheric propagation here in the second half of winter has become a regular phenonenon.

UP2BJB successfully used the "tropo" that occurred from 3 to 5 February to operate on 430 MHz. He worked 15 hams in OZ, 3 in DL, and 3 in SM. His most interesting QSO's were with LA9DL and OHØNC/m. He didn't succeed in having contacts on 1215 MHz but heard OZ7IS and OZ1ABE.

On 15 February local but intensive propagation was noted in a number of areas of the country. UA3LBO worked stations in UC2A, W, UA3D, A, P, and on 430 MHz he contacted RA3AGS and UW3GU. As RA1ALN reports, stations from the Scandinavian countries and Estonia were heard loudly on both bands /144 + 430 MHz, presumably/.

About a week later favorable conditions developed for UR's: UR2GZ writes that the evening of 22 February he discovered an Aurora. Having established a somewhat traditional QSO, suddenly he heard clean signals from DF5LS. After he turned his antenna toward the south-west, he established one contact after another: With Y22SA, SM7QA, Y38WA, OZ4OW, Y25FA (new square GO), DK1KO, Y38ZA... On 430 MHz, Swedish and Finnish stations showed up only at night, and also UP2BJB. The farthest contacts on this band were DF3LY and DF5LQ (1035 km). UR2EQ and UR2RQT also worked these amateurs In addition, they were successful on 1215 MHz: The former had a QSO with UP2BJB, and latter with OH5NR.

The best result was achieved by UP2BJB who operated mostly on 430 MHz (and propagation, according to him, was letter there than on 144 MHz). He had 14 QSO's with DC's, DF's, DK's, DL's, SM3's, 4's, 5'S, Ø'S. three with OZ's, seven with OH's, and three with UR2's. He got new countries by working Y22HA and DL/ZL (West Berlin).

The most interesting thing that happened was on 1215 MHz. On 21 February UP2BJB worked DJ8XO and days later worked DF3XU, DF9LN, DK3UC, and DK1ZO. The level of DK1ZO's and DF9LN's signals got up to S-9, and the QSO with DF3XU permitted him to better the all-union achievement by more than 100 km, bringing him to 878 km!

The next day contacts became possible in the northern direction: UP2BJB worked his first Finnish station (OH5NR), then UR2EQ, SMØDFP, OH5RX, SM3AKW (804 km), Thus, in all on 1215 MHz, he had 10 QSO's (7 squares). He used a converter designed by UP2BBC with a KT3101

transistor at the input, a KB602A varac /?/ tripler (power about three watts). The antenna was parabolic with a 0.7m diameter.

Practically, the first propagation during the whole winter period in the southern part of the country occurred 25 - 28 February, permitting dependable communication between hams of Krasnodarskiy and Stavropol'skiy krays and ultrashortwavers of the eastern oblasts of the Ukraine, over distances of 600 - 700 km. UA6HFU notes that during this period his neighbors UK6HAR, RA6HHS, RA6HWC, and others, were active. Incidentally, RA6HWC stresses that although he made 15 QSO's with UB5's, operation was difficult on account of much interference from a large number of stations. For this reason, he was unsuccessful in establishing several DX contacts.

UA6YAF had 32 QSO's, among them, in paticular, ones with RA6LRR (rare square U103g) and UB5LLL. He also even heard RA3ZDI. UA6ALT's most distant contacts were with UB5LGC and RB5LKW. The operators at UK5IEC report that they identified over 40 call-signs, and heard RA3ZDI working RA6ANG and UA6AKA and UB5IEP working UK6HAR.

In March, several periods of better-than-usual propagation were noted. On 17 March UA3MBJ worked UQ2CFZ and UA3RFS (over 600 km). The most noteworthy events occurred in the 9th call area: On 15 and 17 March the first contacts were made from the Komi ASSR. UA9XCF from Ukhta worked the nearest operators to him, UA9FIG (480 km) and UA9FO (420 km), both located in the north of Permskaya Oblast'. It may be hoped that in the very near future ultrashortwavers will increase their achievements by a new territory and oblast', at least with the help of Aurora propagation.

During this period, UA9GL worked UA3TCF, whose signal had reached 10 dB. He /presumably UA9GL -- tr./ notes that propagation remained not bad until 20 March, since signals from the UK4NAU beacon (360 km) came through with levels of 10 - 12 dB.

144 MHz - EME.

"On 27 March the longest EME QSO in the USSR was established over a distance of 10,300 km! UA3TCF contacted YV5ZZ from Venezuela. This is also the first ultrashortwave communication from the USSR to Latin America.

"The first round of an EME contest was a main event in the life of moon-communication enthusiasts -- this occurred 3 - 4 August and brought together almost all lovers of EME QSO's. And although Aurora showed up during that period and significantly worsened conditions for carrying out communications for many, the airwaves were very lively.

"Several Soviet ultrashortwavers were trying out their equipment for the first time (basically, for the time being, on receive) in operating via the Moon. UO5OGF heard K1WHS, WA1JXN, VE7BQH, VE7DFO, SM7BAE, G3POI, SM2GGF, Y22ME, DK4XI, but was again unsuccessful in carrying out a QSO. True, his signal, reflected from the surface of the Moon, was heard by UA3RFS who by this time had installed a new 4 x 9-element F9FT antenna. He himself heard VE7BQH, K1WHS (he called, but without result), Y22ME, WA1JXN/7. UB5EAG and UB5EFQ tried to operate but so far not very successfully.

"UA3LBO writes that he receives his own weak echo (1 dB), not regularly and only when his antenna is raised in a vertical plane at an angle of greater than 20°. However, he's already worked 18 different hams. In the EME contest, he established contacts with DK1PZ, K1WHS (12 dB), G3POI, DK4XI, Y22ME, SM2GGF, SM7BAE, YU1AW. The signals of some stations, in parcicular K1WHS and WA8ONQ (8 dB) came through 'almost like via tropo.' The signals of European stations YU3USB, YU1AW, SM2GGF, and others, were especially good with a level of 4 - 8 dB and were constant over a several-hour period.

"UB5JIN, despite a malfunctioning antenna rotor, contacted six stations in Europe, Canada, and the US, and heard other stations in 10 countries.

"In the contest, UA3TCF had contacts with KR5F, OH7PI, SM7BAE, N4GJV, KY4Z, UA1ZCL, and heard 27 stations in all. He reports that on 2 April, experimenting with a 15-element beam, he received, without a preamplifier (in a band/width?/ of 600 Hz), the signals of SM7BAE (3 dB) and KR5F (1 dB).

"Of all those operating, UA1ZCL had the greatest success. Judge for yourself: In his log during the period from 3 to 4 April were entered contacts with I1RSQ, K1WHS, KB8RQ, SSM7BAE, DL6BAG/p, G3PQI, DK4PZ, DK4XI, OH7PI, LA1TN, WA8ONQ, VE7DFO, N7NW, UA3TCF, YU3USB, F6BSJ, OE3XUA, YU1AW."

CHRONICLE.

* In April, UI8IAN from Samarkand heard UD6DFD's signals reflected from meteor streams. UI8IAN advised that in the eighth call area UI8IAL from Samarkand, UJ8JKD and UJ8SAS from Leninabad, UI8TAD from Surkhandar'inskaya Oblast', UJ8XCW from Kurgan'-Tyube are interested in working ultrashortwave DX. On account of the mountain relief it is difficult in the area to have contacts by normal means, but, for example UI8IAN and UJ8SAS have heard each other via meteor.

* As of before the beginning of the summer period of intensive meteor streams in the USSR, there are 120 MS stations in 47 oblasts. In the first /call-sign?/ area are found 4.3% (in two oblasts) of these, in the second 21.3% (in 6), in the third 18.8% (11), in the fourth 6% (6), in the fifth 34.2% (11), in the sixth 7.7% (5), in the seventh 0.9% (1), in the ninth 6.8% (5).

TABLE OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF ULTRASHORTWAVERS OF THE USSR

Call-sign	Countries	QTH Locator Squares	Oblasts, R-100-O	Points
Soviet Union				
UA3LBO /etc./				
VIIIth Activity Area (UA6)				
UW6MA /etc./				
IVth Activity Area (UB5A, E, H, I, J, L, M, Q)				
UB5JIN /etc./				

*The figures shown in parentheses indicate the growth in achievements in the tables (see "Radio" No. 10/1981): UA3TCF, UR2GZ, and UC2ABN are in the table for the first time.

ТАБЛИЦА ДОСТИЖЕНИЙ УЛЬТРАКОРОТКОВОЛНОВИКОВ СССР

Позывной	Страны	Квадраты QTH-локатора	Области, R-100-О	Очки
по Советскому Союзу				
UA3LBO	41	319	66	(1852)*
	14	44	35	(779)
UR2RQT	45	277	38	(1640)
	13	55	14	
	3	4	2	1430
UR2EQ	38	261	35	
	16	61	10	(817)
	7	16	4	1409
RA3YCR	39	259	765	(1217)
	5	42	22	1381
UC2AAB	41	261	45	
	11	44	13	(854)
	1	2	1	1353
UA1MC	35	214	46	
	11	54	11	(1816)
	4	11	3	1228
UA3MBJ	34	262	42	
	8	34	17	(1539)
	1	1	1	1353
UQ2GFZ	34	239	41	
	9	23	9	(1741)
	2	3	2	1150
UA3LAW	35	258	46	(1899)
	11	27	15	1243
UB5JIN	42	220	49	(1426)
	3	17	8	1125
UA3TCF	43	189	50	
	5	19	10	1008
UK3AAC	29	163	56	(832)
	7	46	22	1096
UT5DL	45	195	33	
	7	17	4	(1065)
	3	3	1	1045
UR2GZ	36	223	32	
	8	30	5	1043
UC2ABN	28	196	33	
	13	49	9	1032
по VIII зоне активности (UA6)				
UW6MA	42	166	52	
	2	5	4	974
UK6LDZ	28	113	38	
	2	4	4	684
UA6LGH	13	41	24	
	3	11	6	342
UA6YAF	14	51	27	349
UA6ALI	13	40	18	274

Позывной	Страны	Квадраты QTH-локатора	Области, R-100-О	Очки
UA6AKA	6	40	18	233
UA6LMZ	5	34	14	
	2	5	3	219
UA6AVM	6	34	20	216
UA6AJM	4	29	20	190
UA6HFY	9	18	13	173
UA6LCD	4	30	12	
	1	1	1	167
UA5AEC	6	25	13	163
UA6HJV	9	20	10	162
RA6HAG	6	22	13	157
UA6IAI	5	18	9	121
по IV зоне активности (UB5A, E, H, I, J, L, M, Q)				
UB5JIN	42	217	48	
	3	17	8	1408
UB5EFQ	28	167	46	
	2	13	6	844
UK5EDT	28	171	44	
	4	26	12	810
UB5ICR	29	143	47	
	1	2	1	770
UB5LAK	29	92	28	
	2	25	8	712
UB5EAG	25	102	46	
	2	12	5	704
UB5JIW	25	106	34	
	4	11	7	671
UB5EHY	20	89	49	
	4	17	10	654
RB5LGX	25	92	35	
	2	11	8	537
UB5LIQ	26	88	35	
	2	12	5	529
UK5EDB	25	84	32	
	2	7	5	583
RB5JAX	25	122	26	574
UB5LLL	19	72	34	
	2	11	12	564
UK5IEC	18	77	29	
	2	10	3	520
UY5OE	10	71	25	
	3	23	15	497